RFTA Planning Department Monthly Update

April 13, 2023

RFTA Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Transition Plan

On April 5, the Stantec/FHU consulting team and RFTA Staff kicked off the Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Transition Plan. RFTA will use this planning document to determine the capital investments and operational changes required for successful implementation of zero emission buses, equipment, and facilities. The timing is appropriate, as ZEB fleet transition is a priority strategy from the Climate Action Plan (CAP) that is set to finalized by the June 8th RFTA Board Retreat, and the State of Colorado has set a goal to transition the state transit fleet to 100% ZEB by 2050. The ZEB Plan will better define the total cost of ownership of ZEB fleet transition options, and these various options can be compared using the cost-benefit climate calculator from the CAP.

RFTA will still closely follow a Fleet Maintenance/Replacement Plan and a Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan to guide fleet propulsion decisions to 2040.

Climate Action Plan

An update on the CAP, the first since November 2022, is on this month's Board Agenda. Please reference the board agenda and portfolio. The CAP will be finalized by the June 8, 2023 Board Retreat.

Grants Update

Please see the *2023 Q1 RFTA Grants Report* in the portfolio. In summary, RFTA Staff is currently managing approximately **17 active grant projects** for bus replacement, facility improvements, operating funding and planning studies. Total active grant awards are **$70 million, with $55.6 million in local "overmatch" funds, for total estimated grant project costs of $125.6 million**. Additionally, Staff have submitted four grant applications, totaling an approximate $40 million in project costs, pending grant awards.

To date, this is quite possibly the largest number of grant projects, and associated highest project costs, collaboratively administered at one time by several RFTA departments.

Facilities

The Glenwood Springs Maintenance Facility (GMF)/Regional Transit Center (RTC) remains RFTA's highest priority capital project. Phase 6B and Phase 8 represent the unfunded core phases of the master-planned campus.

Phase 6B consists mostly of the 3-story Operations and Administration center on top of Phase 6A, the West Glenwood Springs Transit Hub. Phase 8 is approximately 10,000ft2 of enclosed space dedicated to storage and light maintenance of fleet and facility-related equipment. The current cost estimate to construct these remaining core phases of the GMF, Phase 6B and Phase 8, is about $23 million.

In fall of 2022, RFTA submitted a grant proposal for FY2023 CDOT "Super Call" capital funds to complete these two components. Super Call awards were announced in early April and RFTA did not receive funding.

RFTA is also requesting FY23 FTA Section 5339b (Bus and Bus Facility) funds and 5339c (Low and No Emissions) funds for a 100% ZEV-ready facility. IF RFTA receives the required funding, Phase 6B and Phase 8 will be added to the design-build construction package, and the core GMF Phases 1-8 can be completed and implemented by the end of 2025, culminating in about 15 years of planning, design and construction.

Phase 6A: West Glenwood Multimodal Hub (partially funded by a $4.8 million RAISE grant)

Phase 6B: The Administration and Operations Center (3 stories above Phase 6A: West Glenwood Multimodal)

Fleet

RFTA is also requesting FTA 5339c (Low and No Emissions) funds to replace ten workhorse diesel buses that have exceeded their 12-year/500,00-mile service life with ten additional BEBs for 2024 order and 2025 delivery. With a second delivery of 10 BEBs, in addition to the 8 pilot BEBs put into operation in 2019, RFTA can proudly state an 18% electrified fleet (18 of 100 revenue service buses).

Trails

Staff is also requesting CDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds to renovate the Rio Grande Trail Roaring Fork River Bridge north of Carbondale, and the Rosebud Cemetery Trailhead in South Glenwood Springs. Staff submitted draft applications to CDOT on March 24. Following CDOT review and feedback, final drafts are due April 21.

View Down Centerline Bridge Roadway Looking Upstation (South)

Corridor-View, Rosebud Cemetery Trailhead in South Glenwood Springs

Q1 2023 Grants Report, revised 4/7/23	Grant Source	Execution Date	Expiration Date	Grant Amount	RFTA Match	Total Grant Project Cost	Status
EXECUTED GRANTS							
Buses: 12 Diesel Replacements	FY22 FTA Combined 5339b & 5339c Low-No	3/2/2023	12/31/2024	$5,721,272	$1,430,318	$7,151,590	RFTA intends to purchase 10 CNGs and 2 Diesels. Per the FMP, intended replacements buses are 277, 278, 279, 432, 433, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440 and 542. We received notice of full award on 8-15-22. Following a discussion with DTR Staff on 1/9/23, we provided the original application material once again to advance to contract execution.
Buses: (1) Diesel Replacement (Amended)	Original: FY21 FTA 5311 FY21 Super Call	10/31/2022	12/31/2024	$496,000	$124,000	$620,000	As a result of a grant surplus from a cheaper bus price, CDOT agreed to split an additional diesel replacement, across two amended grants. A portion of bus 543 is included in the amendment.
Buses: (5) Diesel Replacements (Amended)	Original: FY21 FTA 5339(a) Rural FY21 Super Call	11/2/2022	12/31/2024	$1,984,000	$496,000	$2,480,000	As a result of a grant surplus from a cheaper bus price, CDOT agreed to split an additional diesel replacement, across two amended grants. A portion of bus 543 is included in the amendment.
Buses: (1) Traveler Cutaway	FY21 FTA 5339(a) Rural FY21 Super Call	10/22/2021	12/31/2024	$72,160	$18,040	$90,200	With this grant we are replacing Traveler G11. The order was placed on 2/3/2022, $91,522, and Garfield County is providing $18,041 in match to benefit the Traveler. Delivery has been delayed to May 2023.
Facility: BEB 450 kW (1) On-Route Charger	FY20 FASTER FY20 Super Call	3/18/2022	12/31/2023	$480,000	$120,000	$600,000	SEH is providing design/engineering. The charger has been ordered and delivered. A construction RFP will be solicited in early summer 2023, with projected installation in late 2023 or early 2024. There are lefotver grant funds that will be expended on design costs.
Facility: GWS SH82/27th St. Bike-Ped Crossings	CY21, CY22 CDOT RMS, MMOF, TAP, RPP & GWS contribution	10/25/2022	9/29/2032	$11,070,860	$4,876,965	$15,947,825	Grants funding breakdown: TAP ($1 M award + $250,000 local = $1,250,000) + RAISE ($6,020,468 award + $2,326,573 match = $8,347,041) + ARPA ($2M award + $1,250,000 match = $3,250,000) + CDOT RPP $1 M total + MMOF ($1,050,392 award + $1,050,392 match = $2,100,784). Total grant awards $11,070,860 + Total RFTA match $4,876,965. COGS is also contributing $750,000 M toward total local match.
Facility: 82/27th Ped Crossings	CY22CDOT MMOF	TBD	TBD	$1,000,000	$15,420,000	$16,420,000	We applied last-minute for cost overruns in the $6m range from our first bid. This amount has been added to the multi-source CDOT TAP grant, mentioned above. CDOT provided a concurrence leter on 1/17/23 to contract with Myers.
Facility: GMF/RTC Phases 3,4,5,7	FY20 USDOT BUILD	7/21/2021	4/30/2025	$13,009,000	$5,575,137	$18,584,137	Finance Department is administering this grant via the TRAMS online portal.
Facility: GMF/RTC Phases 3,4,5,7	FY20 5339(b) Bus & Bus Facilities	6/7/2021	4/30/2025	$11,475,000	$12,428,800	$23,903,800	Finance Department is administering this grant via the TRAMS online portal.
Facility: GMF/RTC Gap Project P 3,4,5,7	FY21 FTA 5339(b) Buses & Bus Facilities	TBD	TBD	$9,350,000	TBD	$9,350,000	We requested $12.8 m for the gap project list. FTA Awards List: https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/fiscal-year-2021-buses-and-bus-facilities-projects. The Risk Assessment was submitted 9/28/22. David Carle confirmed that this grant amendment is needed to add the project to the STIP, and combine grant funds for the same project. On 11/18/23, Emma with FTA confirmed that a Buy America waiver is hanging up amendment execution.
Facility: GMF/RTC Phase 6A WGWS Transit Hub	FY23 DOLA	2/6/2023	1/31/2025	$250,000	$0	$250,000	The contract lists $5,983,676 as "other funds", which is our "overmatch" from some of the RAISE grant award.
Planning: Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Transition Plan	FY21 FTA 5304 Planning	3/22/22	12/31/2023	$75,620	$75,620	$151,240	We were granted another grant deadline extension. The RFP was solicited on 11/9/22 and we received 5 valid proposals. We hope to have a consultant contract by the end of January 2023, and an estimated 8-9 month project schedule.
		EXECUTED SUBTOTALS		**$54,983,912**	**$40,564,880**	**$95,548,792**	
AWARDED GRANTS PENDING EXECUTION							
Facility: GMF/RTC P6 Multimodal Center (I-70 MOVE Hubs) & 82/27 Ped Crossings	FY22 USDOT RAISE	TBD	TBD	$10,820,468	$12,900,000	$23,720,468	RFTA was part of a collaborative application for I-70 Multimodal Hubs (MOVE). Additionally, a portion of costs for the SH 82/27th St. Ped Crossings are also included.
Facility: GMF/RTC Gap Project P 3,4,5,7	FTA 5311, FY22 Super Call	TBD	TBD	$2,762,280	$690,570	$3,452,850	Submitted September 9/3/21 for FY22 Super Call. Milestones and Risk Assessment were submitted on 6/2/22. On 1/17/23, CDOT received our edits to the draft SOW and Brian is estimating a March 15th contract execution date.
Operating: FY23 Systemwide	CY23 FASTER, Super Call	TBD	TBD	$1,201,678	$1,201,678	$2,403,356	Our annual award is more predictable as part of a 5-year base funding model agreed upon by CDOT partners. The source funds have switched from 5311 to FASTER.
Operating: CY23 Regional Hogback	CY23 FASTER, Super Call	TBD	TBD	$200,000	$200,000	$400,000	Our annual award is more predictable as part of a 5-year base funding model agreed upon by CDOT partners. We have to work with Bustang Ops Unit for contract execution.
Planning: RFTA Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Safety & Training Program	CDOT Office Innovative Mobility (OIM) ZEV Workforce Development Grant	TBD	TBD	$60,000	$15,000	$75,000	This a collaborative project with several departments. The draft SOW should be provided to RFTA in late April 2023.
		AWARDED SUBTOTALS		**$15,044,426**	**$15,007,248**	**$30,051,674**	
		TOTAL ACTIVE GRANTS		**$70,028,338**	**$55,572,128**	**$125,600,466**	
GRANTS SUBMITTED AWAITING POTENTIAL AWARDS							
Facility: GMF/RTC Phases 6A, 6B Multimodal Hub, Office Tower and Phase 8 Maintenance Storage Building	FY23 FTA 5339b Bus & Bus Facilities & 5339c Low or No Emissions	TBD	TBD	$17,310,469	$5,770,156	$23,080,625	The messaging for the tandem applications is the GMF/RTC is a 100% ZEV-ready facility, and we need additional capacity to operate 10 additional BEBs. Awards are projected for June/July 2023.
Buses: Replace 10 Diesels with 10 BEBs	FY23 FTA 5339b Bus & Bus Facilities & 5339c Low or No Emissions	TBD	TBD	$10,815,000	$3,605,000	$14,420,000	The messaging for the tandem applications is the GMF/RTC is a 100% ZEV-ready facility, and we need additional capacity to operate 10 additional BEBs. Awards are projected for June/July 2023.
RGT Corridor: Roaring Fork River Bridge	CY23 CDOT TAP	TBD	TBD	$400,000	$406,000	$806,000	Final grant applications are due April 21st. Awards are projected for Summer 2023.
RGT Corridor: Rosebud Cemetery Trailhead Improvements	CY23 CDOT TAP	TBD	TBD	$392,000	$392,000	$784,000	Final grant applications are due April 21st. Awards are projected for Summer 2023.
		SUBTOTALS SUBMITTED		**$28,917,469**	**$10,173,156**	**$39,090,625**	